

Ocean Energy Management, Interior

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(5) In which the Secretary finds that because of such activity there is, or will be, a significant risk of serious damage, due to factors such as prevailing winds and currents, to the marine or coastal environment in the event of any oilspill, blowout, or release of oil or gas from vessels, pipelines, or other transshipment facilities;

(h) *Marine environment* means the physical, atmospheric, and biological components, conditions, and factors which interactively determine the productivity, state, conditions, and quality of the marine ecosystem, including the waters of the high seas, the contiguous zone, transitional and intertidal areas, salt marshes, and wetlands within the coastal zone and on the Outer Continental Shelf;

(i) *Coastal environment* means the physical, atmospheric, and biological components, conditions, and factors which interactively determine the productivity, state, conditions, and quality of the terrestrial ecosystem from the shoreline inward to the boundaries of the coastal zone;

(j) *Human environment* means the physical, social, and economic components, conditions, and factors which interactively determine the state, condition, and quality of living conditions, employment, and health of those affected, directly or indirectly, by activities occurring on the Outer Continental Shelf;

(k) *Mineral* means oil, gas, and sulphur; it includes sand and gravel and salt used to facilitate the development and production of oil, gas, or sulphur.

(l) *Authorized officer* means any person authorized by law or by delegation of authority to or within BOEM to perform the duties described in this part.

(m) *Bonus or royalty credit* means a legal instrument or other written documentation, or an entry in an account managed by the Secretary that a bidder or lessee may use in lieu of any other monetary payment for—

(1) A bonus due for a lease on the Outer Continental Shelf; or

(2) A royalty due on oil or gas production from any lease located on the Outer Continental Shelf.

(n) *Central planning area* means the Central Gulf of Mexico Planning Area of the Outer Continental Shelf, as designated in the document entitled

“Draft Proposed Program Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2007–2012,” dated February 2006.

(o) *Coastline* means the line of ordinary low water along that portion of the coast in direct contact with the open sea and the line marking the seaward limit of inland waters.

(p) *Desoto Canyon OPD* means the official protraction diagram designated as Desoto Canyon which has a western edge located at the universal transverse mercator (UTM) X coordinate 1,346,400 in the North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27).

(q) *Destin Dome OPD* means the official protraction diagram designated as Destin Dome which has a western edge located at the universal transverse mercator (UTM) X coordinate 1,393,920 in the NAD 27.

(r) *Eastern planning area* means the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area of the Outer Continental Shelf, as designated in the document entitled “Draft Proposed Program Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2007–2012,” dated February 2006.

(s) *Pensacola OPD* means the official protraction diagram designated as Pensacola which has a western edge located at the universal transverse mercator (UTM) X coordinate 1,393,920 in the NAD 27.

§ 556.7 Cross references.

(a) For Bureau of Ocean Energy Management regulations governing exploration, development and production on leases, see 30 CFR parts 550 and 570.

(b) For BOEM regulations governing the appeal of an order or decision issued under the regulations in this part, see 30 CFR part 590.

(c) For multiple use conflicts, see the Environmental Protection Agency listing of ocean dumping sites—40 CFR part 228.

(d) For related National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration programs see:

(1) Marine sanctuary regulations, 15 CFR part 922;

(2) Fishermen’s Contingency Fund, 50 CFR part 296;

(3) Coastal Energy Impact Program, 15 CFR part 931;

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(e) For Coast Guard regulations on the oil spill liability of vessels and operators, see 33 CFR parts 132, 135, and 136.

(f) For Coast Guard regulations on port access routes, see 33 CFR part 164.

(g) For compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, see 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508.

(h) For Department of Transportation regulations on offshore pipeline facilities, see 49 CFR part 195.

(i) For Department of Defense regulations on military activities on offshore areas, see 32 CFR part 252.

§ 556.8 Leasing maps and diagrams.

(a) Any area of the OCS which has been appropriately platted as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, is subject to lease for any mineral not included in a subsisting lease issued under the act or meeting the requirements of subsection (a) of section 6 of the Act. Before any lease is offered or issued an area may be:

(1) Withdrawn from disposition pursuant to section 12(a) of the Act; or

(2) Designated as an area or part of an area restricted from operation under section 12(d) of the Act.

(b) BOEM shall prepare leasing maps and official protraction diagrams of areas of the OCS. The areas included in each mineral lease shall be in accordance with the appropriate leasing map or official protraction diagram.

§ 556.10 Information to States.

(a) The information covered in this section is prepared by or directly obtained by the Director. Such information is typically not considered to be proprietary or privileged, with the primary exception of specific indications of interest in an area by industry received in response to a Call for Information issued by the Secretary. This information and all other proprietary and privileged information obtained by or under the control of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management may be released only in accordance with the regulations in 30 CFR parts 550, 551, and 552.

(b) The Director shall prepare an index to OCS information (see 30 CFR 552.5). The index shall list all relevant actual or proposed programs, plans, re-

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ports, environmental impact statements, nominations information, environmental study reports, lease sale information and any similar type of relevant information including, modifications, comments and revisions, prepared by or directly obtained by the Director under the act. The index shall be sent on a regular basis to affected States and, upon request, it shall be sent to any affected local government. The public shall be informed of the availability of the index.

(c) Upon request, the Director shall transmit to affected States, local governments or the public, a copy of any information listed in the index which is subject to the control of the BOEM in accordance with the requirements and subject to the limitations of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and regulations implementing said Act, and the regulations contained in 43 CFR part 2, except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) Upon request, the Director shall provide relative indications of interest in areas as well as any comments filed in response to a Call for Information for a proposed sale. However, no information transmitted shall identify any particular area with the name of any particular party so as not to compromise the competitive position of any participants in the process of indicating interest.

§ 556.11 Helium.

(a) Each lease issued or continued under these regulations shall be subject to a reservation by the United States, under section 12(f) of the Act, of the ownership of and the right to extract helium from all gas produced from the leased area.

(b) In case the United States elects to take the helium, the lessee shall deliver all gas containing helium, or the portion of gas desired, to the United States at any point on the leased area or at an onshore processing facility. Delivery shall be made in the manner required by the United States to such plants or reduction works as the United States may provide.

(c) The extraction of helium shall not cause a reduction in the value of the lessee's gas or any other loss for which